

PRESS RELEASE

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Madison, Wisconsin -- Erik C. Peterson, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that James G. Weyer, Jr., 42, of Glenwood City, Wis., was sentenced today by Magistrate Judge Stephen L. Crocker to three years probation for unauthorized sale of collateral securing a loan from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Administration. Weyer pleaded guilty to this charge on May 6, 2008.

At the plea hearing, the government established that Weyer had obtained a loan from the FSA in 2003, pledging assets and livestock on his farm to secure the loan. Under the terms of the loan and federal law, Weyer was not permitted to sell any of the pledged livestock without the express permission of the FSA. At a cattle auction on November 1, 2005, Weyer sold one of the dairy cows pledged, in addition to 50 others.

The charge against James Weyer was the result of an investigation conducted by U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of Inspector General. The prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert A. Anderson.

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